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MEMORANDUM FOR:

DATE: 4 June 1963

FROM :

SUBJECT : Decontrol of Ethiopia, Somali Republic and
French Somaliland (NIS Area 55)

1. Prior to independence in 1960 the Somali Republic was composed of British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland. The original reason for placing a control on NIS Area 55 was probably because of the inclusion of British Somaliland, a British protectorate. Since the merger of British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland and their subsequent emergence as an independent republic (Somali Republic), there is no obvious reason for continuance of the control.

2. Ethiopia has been an independent country since the pre-medieval era although under influence and control of various nations at times; Ethiopia has been completely independent since liberated from Italian influence by the British in 1941. Eritrea was incorporated as a province of Ethiopia in 1962 and is no longer a separate country. There has been no British interest in either Ethiopia or Eritrea for many years and no reason for a control being assigned to present-day Ethiopia.

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